

U. S. Department of Justice

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DOCID: 34444947W F O
FEDERAL BUREAU*of*

INVESTIGATION

Bureau File NumberSee also Nos.*Rue*CLASSIFICATION NO. 100-255369
Volume Number 25370

Subj: Associate for the Study ofAddress: Neenah Tilt + SkistonBirthdate: SUPV: Misc: R# Date Searcher Initial

Dr. Chas. Wesley

FILE NUMBER

731 Fairmount

SERIALS

85B

A D 403

see

Charles Wesley

47-1921

62-0-4019

A Chas. Wesley supposedly
wanted in New Orleans

100-84-159-25, 39

-85B p260

-1E-67

100-2100-6 p9

Sponsos
Wash. Comm.
Aid to China

for

~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

February 14, 1952

SAC, St. Louis (100-11169)

REGISTERED MAIL

ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF
NEGRO LIFE AND HISTORY
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

On January 3, 1952, HOWARD WOODS, City Editor, St. Louis Argus, a local Negro newspaper, advised SA ROBERT B. HAAG that he had received a mimeographed communication requesting his presence at a meeting of an organization identified as the "Association for the Study of Negro Life and History." This communication indicated that the meeting was to be held on January 3, 1952, at the Vagabond Club, 6400 Vandeventer Place, St. Louis. He stated that the mailing address for the organization was indicated as 4757 Labadie, St. Louis, which is the residence address of VIRGINIA BRODINE, who, according to Confidential Informant [redacted] as indicated in information furnished by the informant to SA HUGH M. ANDERSON on December 13, 1950, was a member of the Communist Party and elected a group leader of the east side area of the CP of St. Louis at a meeting of the area held on December 11, 1950.

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

Mr. WOODS, who desires that his identity be considered confidential, further advised that on January 3, 1952, he was telephonically contacted by BRODINE who inquired whether or not WOODS would attend the aforementioned meeting. BRODINE said that she was secretary of the organization.

On January 14, 1952, Reverend HERMAN DREER, 4903 Maffitt Place, St. Louis, who is the minister of King's Way Baptist Church, 4200 Finney Avenue, St. Louis, and a professor of history at Stowe's Teachers College, St. Louis, appeared at this office seeking information concerning instant organization and individuals affiliated with it. He said that the organization was a national organization with headquarters in Washington, D. C. where CHARLES WESLEY held the position of president. He said further that he had formerly been chairman of the St. Louis branch of the organization from approximately 1920 to 1942.

Reverend DREER said he attended a re-organization meeting of the organization held on January 3, 1952, at the Vagabond Club, St. Louis, upon the invitation of one VIRGINIA BRODINE, who was most active in the re-organization. He said that the purposes of the organization were (1) Celebrate Negro History Week (February 10 through 17, 1952) (2) Research to find out the extent the Negro has participated in the history of the states of Illinois, Missouri, and Kansas in fields of art, music, industry, and education.

The following officers were elected at this meeting: Chairman, Reverend HERMAN DREER (colored); Vice-chairman, NANCY PETTY (white), 3938 McPherson

HCH:wre

100-949-rec.1 ser.5-P.8

cc: Washington Field (REGISTERED MAIL)
100-9171 (Virginia Brodine)

FEB 25 1952

~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

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100-25370-1

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Avenue, St. Louis; Secretary, VIRGINIA BRODINE (white), 4757 Labadie Avenue, St. Louis; Assistant Secretary, Mrs. ROBERT L. WITHERSPOON (colored), 91-598-32, 20 Lewis Place, St. Louis, Missouri. *Bank Rollery Address p 31*

Reverend DREER said the meeting was attended by thirty-six individuals. He said when he was formerly affiliated with the organization, it consisted entirely of Negroes and now its membership also includes whites.

Reverend DREER said the purpose of his visit to this office was to seek information concerning any Communist infiltration in the organization. He explained that Reverend O. WALTER WAGNER, Secretary, Metropolitan Church Federation, 1528 Locust, St. Louis, and LEO BOHANNON, Secretary, Urban League, 3017 Delmar Boulevard, withdrew from the organization because of "left wingers" affiliated with same. Reverend DREER advised that these men did not identify the "left wingers" to him nor explain further. He noticed nothing irregular from a loyalty or security standpoint at the meeting and did not know any of those in attendance at the meeting to be affiliated with any subversive movement.

The Bureau policy with regard to furnishing information concerning individuals or organizations was explained to Reverend DREER, and his cooperation was solicited in the event any information of a disloyal nature comes to his attention.

The January 11, 1952, issue of the St. Louis Argus contained an article on page one, column one, entitled "Dreer Takes Action--Dissolve History Wk. Group Here." This article makes reference to the meeting of instant organization held on January 3, 1952, and quotes Reverend DREER as saying that the organization had been dissolved because of "information received." The article states further "The Argus learned, however, that the injection of what was described as 'extreme left wing' elements was the main cause of the disbanding."

With regard to DREER, on September 9, 1943, an anonymous source furnished SA R. H. HALLERBERG a contact list maintained at the CP of Missouri headquarters, 1041A North Grand Boulevard, St. Louis. This list included DREER's name.

On January 23, 1945, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised SA A. GLENWOOD GILLILAND that DREER's name appeared on a mailing list of the CPA of Missouri. FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

On October 11, 1945, Confidential Informant [redacted] furnished SA KELLY E. GIBBONS a mimeographed outline bearing the caption "Institute on Race Relations Sponsored by Social Service Employees, CIO, Will Present At Its Second Session October 16 WILLIAM PATTERSON speaking on the Economic Approach to Race Prejudice

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in Terms of American Economics." This announcement, issued by UOPWA - CIO - further indicated that on October 23, 1945, Reverend DREER was scheduled to speak on the topic "Contributions of the Negro to American Culture."

Inasmuch as the St. Louis branch of subject organization was dissolved immediately following its reorganization, no further action is contemplated by this office and no report is being submitted. The information contained herein may be of some interest to the Washington Field Division inasmuch as the national headquarters of the organization are apparently located in that city.

RUC.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (100-)

DATE: 1/26/62

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-144189)

SUBJECT: FREEDOMWAYS ASSOCIATES, INCORPORATED
 IS - C
 OO: NEW YORK

On 1/7/62, [redacted] made available photographs of material maintained at the office of Freedomways Associates, Incorporated, 799 Broadway, NYC. Included in these photographs was a two page list entitled "Sponsor Sub. (Sept. '61) (Summer Issue with Editorial)." Among the names on this list were the following:

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

- 3 - Atlanta (100-) (RM)
 - (1-100-) (BISHOP S. L. GREENE)
- 2 - Baltimore (100-) (RM)
 - (1-100-) (MRS. ALICE W. CARNEY)
- 2 - Birmingham (100-) (RM)
- 2 - Charlotte (100-) (RM)
- 2 - Los Angeles (100-) (RM)
 - (1-100-) (W. B. GRAHAM AND ASSOCIATES)
- 2 - New Orleans (100-) (RM)
- 3 - Norfolk (100-) (RM)
 - (1-100-) (MILES M. JACKSON)
- 2 - Philadelphia (100-) (RM)
 - (1-100-) (MRS. BETTY POLLACH)
- 5 - Richmond (100-) (RM)
 - (1-100-) (JOHN EDELMAN)
 - (1-100-) (MRS. JOHN EDELMAN)
 - (1-100-) (MRS. KATHRYN STONE)
- 2 - San Francisco (100-) (RM)
 - (1-100-) (MRS. VINCENT HALLINAN)
- ③ - Washington Field (RM)
 - (1-100-) (REV. WENDELL C. SOMERVILLE)
- 1 - New York (100-144189)

Paul
*100-25370**

CONSOLIDATED

Date: 1-16-71

Initials: *gm*

JFO:bjb
 (29)

TITLE:
Association for the
Study of Negro Life and
History
1538 NINTH ST. NW.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

100-25370-2

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| JAN 30 1962 | |
| FBI - WASH. F. O. | |

T30

NY 100-144189

Mrs. KATHRYN STONE
1051 26th Road South
Arlington, Va.

A. A. BRANCH, Dean
Tougaloo Southern Christian College
Tougaloo, Mississippi

MILES M. JACKSON
Hampton Institute
Hampton, Virginia

CHARLES C. DEAN
Agricultural and Technical College
of North Carolina
Greensboro, North Carolina

Dr. W. A. CARTER
Shaw University
Raleigh, North Carolina

Mrs. ALICE W. CARNEY
7314 Piney Branch Road
Tahoma Park 12
Maryland

Mrs. VINCENT HALLINAN
Box 997
Ross, California

Bishop S. L. GREENE
1212 Fountain Drive, S. W.
Atlanta, Georgia

Dr. ARTHUR D. GRAY, President
Talladega College
Talladega, Ala.

NY 100-144189

Editor
Wolverine Observer
Morris Brown College
Atlanta, Georgia

Association for the Study of
Negro Life and History
1538 Ninth Street, N.W.
Washington 1, D. C.

Opposite the name of Mrs. VINCENT HALLINAN, Bishop S. L. GREENE, ARTHUR GRAY and Editor of the Wolverine Observer, there appears the notation, "Fall Issue."

After the name of Association for the Study of Negro Life and History there appears the notation, "Begin with Fall."

The informant also made available a photograph of a list of names bearing the caption, "Ten Regular Subs (Sept. 27 meeting) Start with Summer Issue with Editorial." Among the names on this list were the following:

Mrs. BETTY POLLACH
2454 Auburn Road
York, Pa.

Rev. WENDELL C. SOMERVILLE
Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Society
1501 11th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

W. B. GRAHAM and Associates
439 South Cienega Blvd.
Los Angeles 48, California

Mr. and Mrs. JOHN EDELMAN
2200 Columbia Pike
Arlington, Va:

After the name of Reverend WENDELL C. SOMMERVILLE, there appears the notation, "Start with Fall Issue." After the name of W. B. GRAHAM and Associates, there appears the notation, "With Fall Issue."

NY 100-144189

For the information of the offices receiving copies of this letter, Freedomways Associates, Incorporated, publishes the Negro quarterly magazine "Freedomways."

A characterization of Freedomways Associates, Incorporated, is attached to this letter. The sources used are [redacted] and [redacted]

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

NY 100-144189

FREEDOMWAYS ASSOCIATES, INC.

The records of the Secretary of State, New York State Department of State, Albany, New York, reflect that the certificate of incorporation of Freedomways Associates, Inc., was filed on March 2, 1961.

The first issue of "Freedomways," spring, 1961, is self-described as a quarterly review of the Negro freedom movement published by Freedomways Associates, Inc., 799 Broadway, New York City.

On May 25, 1961, a confidential source advised that "Freedomways" was set up by JAMES JACKSON, a member of the National Committee, CPUSA, for the CP of the United States with the approval of the CP of the Soviet Union.

On May 24, 1961, another confidential source advised that a report was given on "Freedomways" at a meeting of the National Board, CPUSA, held on May 24, 1961. It was stated that the original plan called for the publication to be openly Marxist, but that it was later decided it would not be avowedly a Marxist publication. Editorials are in the hands of a mixed group of Marxists and non-Marxists. It was stated that the central purpose of "Freedomways" is to develop a theory and positive criticism of currents in the Negro movement, as well as to raise the level of understanding and discussion taking place in Negro life today and to project a socialist and pro-Soviet orientation.